Mount Saint Mary's University | Los Angeles

mount

magazine

spring/summer 2015

Global trek inspires a semester in China

Unstoppable. More than just a slogan, it's our story

Alternative take on spring break, Mount style

Alum finds her voice in radio, print and poetry

I AM THRILLED TO PRESENT TO YOU the new look of the Mount Magazine. This redesign has been a months-long process that started with a reader survey last year. Alums told us what they thought were the publication's strengths and what did not resonate with them. I am happy to say that the respondents had wonderful things to say about the magazine.

With this redesign, we want the magazine to capture the personality of the Mount Saint Mary's community — smart, energetic, determined and bold.

We call ourselves unstoppable. But what truly makes us unstoppable? Inside this magazine, you will meet some of our students and faculty members who exemplify this never-say-die spirit.

In this issue, a photo essay shows what our students prefer to do during spring break — build a greenhouse in Bolivia, for instance. We also highlight our first undergraduate student to study a full semester in a Chinese university.

Our alum spotlight features Teka-Lark Fleming '00, who is unstoppable in her quest to be a voice, literally, for her community. She started her own newspaper, hosts her own radio program, and produces a web-based show that has spawned a cross-cultural book fair.

I hope you enjoy the stories and the new look. This is truly an exciting time for the Mount Magazine!

Sincerely,

Ann McElaney-Johnson
President

ABOUT US

Mount Saint Mary's is the only women's university in Los Angeles and one of the most diverse in the nation. The University is known nationally for its research on gender equality, its innovative health and science programs, and its commitment to community service. As a leading liberal arts institution, Mount Saint Mary's provides year-round, flexible and online programs at the undergraduate and graduate level. Weekend, evening and graduate programs are offered to both women and men. Mount alums are engaged, active global citizens who use their knowledge and skills to better themselves, their communities and the world. msmu.edu

Mount Saint Mary's University is a diverse community committed to providing an environment that is free from discrimination on the basis of any characteristic protected by federal, state or local law, ordinance or regulation.

Mount Saint Mary's University | Los Angeles
mount
magazine

Spring/Summer 2015
Vol. 31, No. 1

EDITOR
Pia Abelgas Orense

EXECUTIVE EDITOR
Debbie Ream

ASSOCIATE EDITOR
Phillip Jordan

CLASS NOTES EDITOR
Barbara (Dummel) Brunner '63

DESIGN
San Luis Design

CONTRIBUTORS
Joanna Banks
Daniel Gould
Jeff Lewis
Glenn Marzano
Carrie Rosema
MSMC Archives

PRINTING
Pace Marketing Communications

© Copyright 2015. Mount Magazine is published by Mount Saint Mary's University, division of Institutional Advancement.

POSTMASTER:
Send address changes to
Mount Magazine
10 Chester Place
Los Angeles, CA 90007.

To contact the editor or submit a story idea, write to Pia Abelgas Orense, assistant director of communications and marketing, Mount Saint Mary's University, 10 Chester Place, Los Angeles, CA 90007; e-mail porense@msmu.edu; or call 213.477.2504.

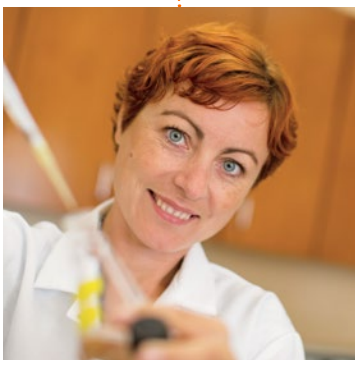
Class Notes news should be mailed to Alumnae Relations at the same address or e-mailed to alums@msmu.edu.

For Information
Alumnae Relations: 213.477.2767
Business Office: 310.954.4040
Chalon Campus: 310.954.4000
Doheny Campus: 213.477.2500
Financial Aid: 310.954.4190
Graduate Admission: 213.477.2800
Institutional Advancement: 213.477.2764
Undergraduate Admission: 310.954.4250
Weekend and Evening College: 213.477.2866

10

Who We Are

WE ARE UNSTOPPABLE. MEET SOME OF OUR STUDENTS AND PROFESSORS WHO EMBODY THIS CAN-DO ATTITUDE.



16

Spring Break, Mount Style

BUILD A GREENHOUSE IN BOLIVIA, GO ON A PILGRIMAGE — WHAT OUR STUDENTS DO WHEN THEY'RE ON BREAK .

20

Study Away

A SEMESTER IN NANJING, CHINA, WAS EXACTLY WHAT THIS BUSINESS MAJOR NEEDED.

22

Finding Her Voice

ONE OF OUR ALUMS WANTS LOS ANGELES — AND THE WORLD — TO HEAR THE STORIES OF HER COMMUNITY.

2 Updates

8 Accolades

26 Giving

27 Alum Community

29 Looking Back

Cover

KATHERINE HAMPTON '15, A BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION MAJOR AT MOUNT SAINT MARY'S. PHOTO BY GLENN MARZANO.

updates

NEW NAME, NEW LOOK

JAN. 1, 2015, MARKED A WHOLE NEW ERA HERE, as our name change to Mount Saint Mary's University became official. Thanks to the breadth of graduate-degree programs that have long been available, the Mount has actually been classified as a university for more than 20 years. Our new name now more accurately reflects the range of offerings available at Mount Saint Mary's.

The University's name change came as a result of nearly a year's worth of reflection and surveys of our alums, students, faculty, staff and partners. On May 22, 2014, the Mount's Board of Trustees unanimously approved the name change, to take effect at the start of this year.

Our new status has been embraced by current Athenians, and was celebrated during a pair of campus pep rallies *(below)* last fall. And Mount Saint Mary's "Unstoppable" campaign has helped to further elevate the University's standing, in Southern California and beyond.

To read Unstoppable stories, go to page 10. ▼

STATUS OF WOMEN

▲ A PULITZER PRIZE-WINNING JOURNALIST. An Academy Award-winning actor. The First Lady of the City of Los Angeles. Those were just a few of the speakers who addressed more than 1,000 people during the March 19 release of Mount Saint Mary's fourth annual Report on the Status of Women and Girls in California™. For the first time, this year's research also includes a global perspective on gender inequalities.

Since 2012, the University's annual Report has helped to spark a movement. This year's public event drew so much interest that the event moved to L.A.'s Skirball Cultural Center to accommodate the huge crowd. Speakers included Sheryl WuDunn *(above)*, a Pulitzer Prize-winner and co-author of "Half the Sky;" Geena Davis, an Academy Award-winning actor and founder of the Geena Davis Institute on Gender in Media at Mount Saint Mary's University; and Amy Elaine Wakeland, First Lady of the City of Los Angeles.

Of course, the well-being of women and girls is not a once-a-year thing for Mount Saint Mary's. At the event, the University announced its plans to launch a new Center for the Advancement of Women, right on campus. The Center will elevate the Mount's efforts, serving as a year-round community resource and hub for research, education — and action — on issues that affect women and girls.

Read the facts and discover how you can help propel women and girls forward: msmu.edu/statusofwomen.

AGGIORNAMENTO

IN THE SPIRIT OF AGGIORNAMENTO, the final event marking the 50th anniversary of the Vatican II Council celebrated the diversity of worship in the Catholic Church. For the past three years, the Religious Studies Department at Mount Saint Mary's University, in partnership with Loyola Marymount University, commemorated the anniversary with a series of discussions and special events called "Vatican II @ 50." On Feb. 14, the Mount's Doheny Campus hosted the final joint event in this series: "Aggiornamento: Celebrating Sacrosanctum Concilium in Los Angeles." Aggiornamento, which means an updating of the church to reflect modern times, was the term used by Pope John XXII when he convened the council. ▼

LA WRITERS

▲ MOUNT SAINT MARY'S MFA IN CREATIVE WRITING program is not even a year old yet. But it has already thrown one of the biggest writers conferences in town.

On March 14, the University partnered with the L.A. chapter of the Women's National Book Association to present the inaugural LA Writers Conference. More than 200 aspiring writers, practiced writers and accomplished writers all met with one shared goal: learning the best paths to publication.

Participants engaged with a diverse and dynamic group of workshop leaders who work as professional editors, publishers, book coaches, booksellers, literary agents and more. The day's opening speaker was Margaret Stohl, a New York Times bestselling Young Adult author. "The biggest challenge for most writers is throwing yourself off that cliff of taking yourself seriously as a writer," she said.

The iconic poet, author and activist Nikki Giovanni *(second from left, above)* closed the conference with a much-anticipated talk about the craft of writing, and read from many of her own most popular poems. "Everyone has a story to tell. You ask, 'how do I tell it?' You tell it by believing in it," Giovanni said.

Are you a writer? Don't miss next year's conference: lawritersconference.org

READY TO RUN

▼ TO ENCOURAGE MORE WOMEN TO RUN for public office, the Mount hosted the third annual Ready to Run nonpartisan campaign training program on Feb. 7 at the Chalon Campus. Keynote speakers this year were the mother-daughter pairing of veteran California public servant Yvonne Burke *(right)*, the first African-American woman to serve in the U.S. Congress, and state Assemblymember Autumn Burke *(left)*.

MAYOR'S REPORT

▲ THE MAYOR OF LOS ANGELES, ERIC GARCETTI, stood in front of the Doheny Mansion and made a promise: The city of Los Angeles "will lead in employing and empowering women." His remarks were made during a press conference on March 31 at the Doheny Campus to announce the release of the first Report on the Status of Women and Girls in Los Angeles, researched by Mount Saint Mary's. He was joined by Los Angeles City Councilmember Nury Martinez, City Controller Ron Galperin, and other key members of the administration, as well as women representing different sectors of the workforce. Mount Saint Mary's Professor Emerita Eleanor Siebert, PhD, lead researcher, presented key data included in the Report. The Report was commissioned by the Los Angeles City Commission on the Status of Women.

ELECTION POST-MORTEM

◄SO HOW DID WOMEN CANDIDATES FARE IN MIDTERM ELECTIONS? Political experts gathered at the Mount on Jan. 15 to conduct a "2014 Election Postmortem," and review the results of last year's national, state and local races. The discussion featured analysis from veteran political reporter Melinda Henneberger *(left)*, of The Washington Post. Among the notable attendees were Wendy Gruel, runner-up in the 2014 race to become L.A.'s mayor and Araceli Campos, president of the Los Angeles City Commission on the Status of Women.

HUMANITIES

THE HUMANITIES ARE ALIVE AND WELL, and Mount Saint Mary's graduate program is proof of that. The master of arts in humanities celebrated its 10th anniversary last fall.

"I think that's proof that a lot of people understand the importance of the humanities and they want to contribute to strengthening it and keeping it as a part of our society," said Professor Millie Kidd, PhD, director of the Humanities program.

Since 2004, 126 alums have earned their master's in humanities from the University.

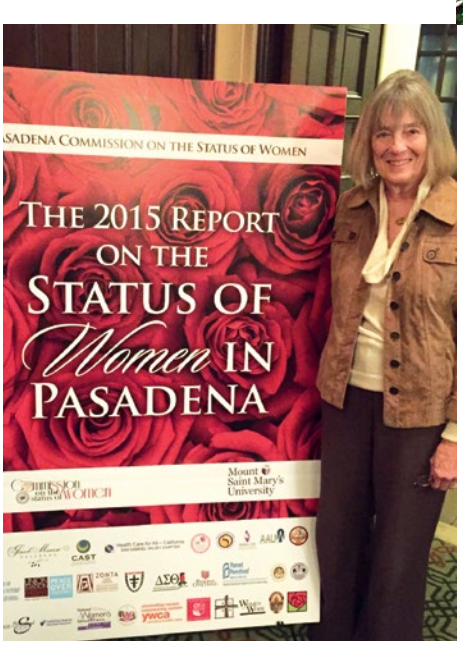
WHITE MASS

▲ OUR NURSING ALUMS do extraordinary work in the healthcare field, and the Archdiocese of Los Angeles knows it. Last fall, Mount Saint Mary's received the Archdiocese's 2014 Catholic Healthcare Service Award for the University's exemplary nursing program. Archbishop José Gomez *(second from left)* presented the award at the 2014 White Mass at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels. President Ann McElaney-Johnson *(second from right)* accepted the award on behalf of the University, along with Dean of Nursing Diane Vines *(left)* and Provost Wendy McCredie *(right)*.

The University created the first bachelor of science nursing degree in California in 1952, and today offers five different nursing programs to meet the needs of an ever-changing community.

PASADENA FACTS

▶ WOMEN IN PASADENA heard some good news and some sobering facts during the release of the Report on the Status of Women in Pasadena, researched by Mount Saint Mary's University. Much like the California and Los Angeles reports, the Pasadena report examined issues affecting women living and working in the ninth-largest city in Los Angeles County. Lead researcher Eleanor Siebert, Mount Saint Mary's professor emerita, presented the findings on March 4 at the Pasadena Central Library.


SADENA COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
THE 2015 REPORT ON THE STATUS OF Women IN PASADENA
Mount Saint Mary's University

DAY TO SERVE

▲ COMMUNITY SERVICE isn't just lip-service at the Mount. More than two-thirds of Athenians regularly volunteer during their time here. And each spring, we highlight the importance of community engagement with the President's annual Invitation to Serve.

On March 21, students, alums, faculty, staff and friends of the University spread out across Los Angeles to give a hand to some of our community partners. That assistance included beautification at Lanterman High School *(above)*, packaging meals for Stop Hunger Now and Los Angeles Regional Food Bank, and cleaning up a section of the Santa Monica Beach with Heal the Bay.

MIXED MEDIA

▲ RENOWNED L.A. SCULPTOR Peter Shelton showcased his newest works last fall at the José Drudis-Biada Art Gallery. Recognized for his humorous and sensuous sculptures of grand scale, Shelton might be best known in Los Angeles for "sixbeastsandtwomonkeys," a monumental, and controversial, sculptural grouping on Spring Street outside the Los Angeles Police Department headquarters. Shelton's exhibit at the Mount, titled "littleBIG," included a mix of pieces in steel, bronze, mixed media and mylar. And plenty of them revealed a sense of imagination — as well as a sense of humor.

HEALTHY LIVING

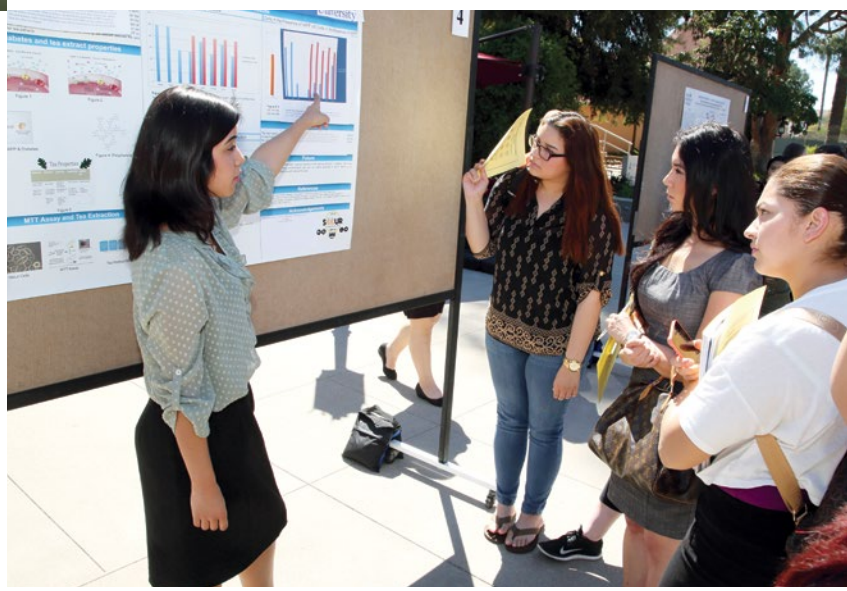
THE GRADUATE DIVISION will launch a new Master of Science in Health Policy and Management program in the fall. This degree will prepare leaders and administrators to become champions of effective health policies and care systems.

Healthy living is the focus of a new track in the Master of Science in Nursing program. The Health Promotion concentration puts graduate nursing students at the center of a holistic approach to patient care, one that motivates people to make healthy lifestyle choices.

BRAIN TRUST

SOMETIMES, YOU JUST HAVE TO SHOW OFF. In 2012, Mount Saint Mary's hosted an Academic Symposium as a way to showcase the incredible work being done by our student and faculty scholars. The idea was such a success that the symposium is now an annual celebration of intellectual engagement, meaningful learning and academic success.

The Mount's 2015 Academic Symposium took place at Doheny on March 26, and enabled Athenians to share their research and creative work — across a range of topics as wide as the 40-plus programs offered at the University. "This is such a powerful experience to see the fruits of so much academic excellence, all in one place," said Michele Starkey, PhD, assistant provost at Mount Saint Mary's. "The symposium allows everyone to take a minute, and really honor the considerable research our students are engaged in." ▼



$2.8 MILLION GRANT

THE UNIVERSITY RECEIVED a new, five-year grant worth more than $2.8 million from the U.S. Department of Education. This funding will help the University strengthen its graduate programs, enable the creation of new graduate degrees and the updating of existing degrees and certificates. The grant award is part of the U.S. Department of Education's Promoting Postbaccalaureate Opportunities for Hispanic Americans (PPOHA) Title V program.

COMMENCEMENT

▲ HOW FAR CAN a Mount Saint Mary's education take you? How about to the White House? At Commencement 2015, this year's graduates will hear from one of their own: Mount alumna Alejandra Ceja '96, executive director of the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics.

Ceja earned her first position in Washington, D.C., just three years after earning her bachelor's degree in political science from Mount Saint Mary's. She says that her degree from the Mount was a springboard to all the jobs she has held within the White House, U.S. Congress and the U.S. Department of Education.

"It doesn't matter where you come from or who you are," Ceja told Mount Magazine in 2013, shortly after President Barack Obama appointed Ceja to her current position. "You just have to get to the point where you believe that you deserve a seat at the table."

Mount Saint Mary's 2015 Commencement exercises will be held May 11 at Shrine Auditorium in downtown Los Angeles.

HONOR ROLL FOR SERVICE

MOUNT SAINT MARY'S has again received national recognition for its commitment to community service. On Dec. 8, the Corporation for National and Community Service named the University to the 2014 President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll with Distinction. Mount Saint Mary's has achieved a spot on the Honor Roll since 2008, and earned "with distinction" status four of those years.

SPRING BREAK

FIVE ATHENIANS participated in a very different, alternative spring break experience right here in Los Angeles, thanks to the Mount's Community Engagement team. Students dove into issues relating to poverty and homeless in the nation's second-largest city. They volunteered at homeless shelters, received a tour of L.A.'s notorious Skid Row community from a formerly homeless resident of the downtown streets, and served at Covenant House *(below)* — a home for youths age 18-24.

To read more alternative spring break stories, go to page 20. ▼

FACULTY

Katherine Brueck, PhD, professor and chair of the English department, has had a collection of poems, "Voiceless Love," accepted for publication by Finishing Line Press, an award-winning small press in Georgetown, Ky. The book is due out toward the end of 2015.

Julia Chang, PhD, physical therapy professor, and her research group at UCLA presented their research on immunopathology of Rasmussen encephalitis at the Society for Neuroscience meeting in Washington, D.C., in November. Their manuscript was published in the December issue of CNS Therapeutics.

The doctoral dissertation (1980) of **Father Guillermo Garcia, PhD**, assistant professor of religious studies, was translated into French and published in a series known as "Studia Josephitica" by the Constant van Crombrugghe Documentation Centre in January.

Paul Green, PhD, assistant professor of philosophy, gave a presentation on "Motivating Students: What the Research Shows" at the 20th annual International Workshop/Conference on Teaching Philosophy sponsored by the American Association of Philosophy Teachers, from July 30 to Aug. 2.

Professor Emerita **Nancy Pine, PhD**, was one of three panelists on "Educational Innovations and Lessons from the Global South," at Claremont Graduate University on Feb. 26.

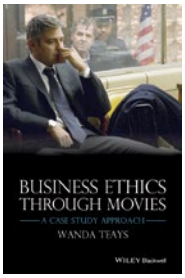
Ruth Sanborn '84, instructor of religious studies, and Mount Saint Mary's alum **Lisa Gigliotti '84** presented a paper at the American Society of Bioethics and Humanities (ASBH) annual meeting on Oct. 18 in San Diego. The title of their presentation was "Here Comes the Judge: When Inter-Professional Decision-Making Doesn't Work." Gigliotti is an administrative law judge and division director at the Michigan Administrative Hearing System.

▲ **Craig Newsam, DPT**, physical therapy assistant professor, worked with Amanda Boxtel at her recent TED talk in Chengdu, China. Boxtel is the executive director of the Bridging Bionics Foundation, where Newsam serves as clinical advisor. The presentation was part of the TED City 2.0 Salon at the Michelin Challenge Bibendum Global Summit.

Carolina Sitnisky, adjunct professor of language and culture, has published "El estado de las cosas: Cine latinoamericano en el nuevo milenio" (The State of Things: Latin American Cinema in the New Millennium) in the Iberoamericana Editorial Vervuert.

A segment on race issues on the CBS Evening News in December showed a clip of a YWCA book group discussing "Witnessing Whiteness: The Need to Talk About Race and How to Do It" by **Shelly Tochluk, PhD**, chair of the education department.

A team of Mount faculty and staff co-presented their research, "Innovative and Culturally Competent Career Development for First-Generation College Students," at the 2014 National Career Development Association Global Conference, held in June in Long Beach. The team included **Greg Travis, PhD**, assistant professor of psychology and director of graduate psychology; **Robin Bishop, PhD**, assistant professor of psychology; grad student **Shelly Ling-Truong**; **Evelyn Oyulela-Kowalski**, director of the student success center; **Kim Terrill**, director of community engagement; and **Jocelyn Chong**, **PhD,** director of the Professional and Academic Resource Center.



◄ **Wanda Teays, PhD**, philosophy department chair, has a new book coming out this month. "Business Ethics Through Movies: A Case Study Approach" (Wiley-Blackwell, 2015) uses both movies and actual (real-world) cases to explore business ethics.

STAFF

Christine Catipon, PsyD, CPS psychologist, was a panelist on "Filipino/Asian Pacific Islander American Professionals in Education" at the Conference for Asian-Pacific Pre-Professionalism on Feb. 25 at UC Irvine.

Erika Ramos, PsyD, CPS postdoctoral fellow, presented "Dimensions of Depression in Mexican Americans: The Role of Attachment Style" at the American Psychoanalytic Association Conference on Jan. 16 in New York City, NY.

Beryl Salvatore, **RN**, director of Student Health Services was awarded the Ollie B. Moten Award for 2015 by the American College Health Association. The award for "Outstanding Service to One's Institution" honors members who have made a significant impact on their institution.

ALUMS

Biochemistry alums **Jessica Cardenas '13** and **Kelsey Miller '13** were awarded predoctoral fellowships from the National Science Foundation. Both alums worked with Professors Denise Cizmeciyan, PhD, and Eric Stemp, PhD, for research here at Mount Saint Mary's. Cardenas is now in the biochemistry doctoral program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and Miller is in the chemistry PhD program at UC Irvine.

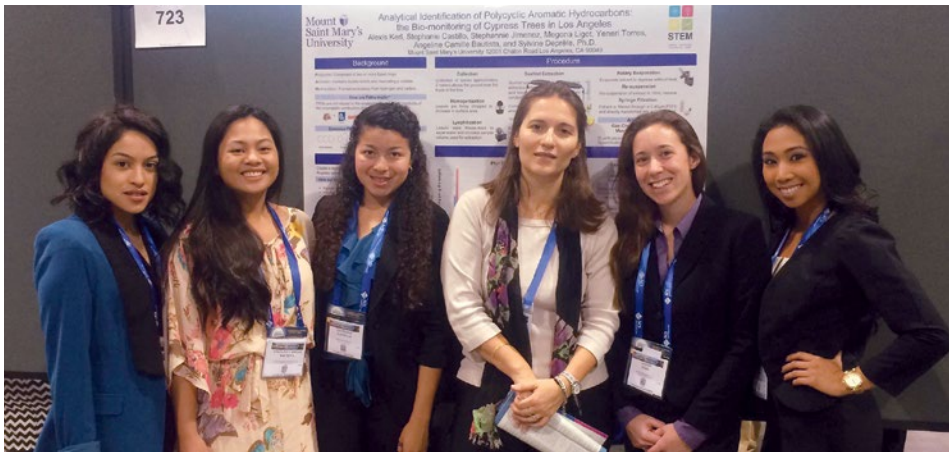
The famed Oaxacan restaurant, Guelaguetza, in Los Angeles' Koreatown owned by **Bricia Lopez '06** was named one of "America's Classics" by the prestigious James Beard Foundation.

Lovelyn Marquez-Prueher '03 has been named a Los Angeles County Teacher of the Year, by the Los Angeles Unified School District, and a California Teacher of the Year, by the California Department of Education. She has been a schoolteacher for 11 years, the last three as an eighth-grade teacher at Dodson Middle School.

STUDENTS

▲ Two Athenians were named "Latina Future History Makers" at the March 14 Latina History Day event presented by Hispanas Organized for Political Equality (HOPE). **Cindy De Leon-Torres '15** (at left) is completing her bachelor's degree in sociology and gerontology at the Mount, while **Susy Contreras '15** will graduate this May with a degree in healthcare policy. De Leon-Torres is a peer mentor on campus and a senior senator. She was honored for leadership, and for her career goals that include earning a master's degree in social work, and helping underserved students excel in their own educational and professional careers. Contreras serves with the East Los Angeles Women Center, and is focused on issues related to domestic violence and healthcare access. She was honored for her community involvement, and her career aspirations to run for California State Senate so that she can influence policies that will help low-income communities.

Students **Melanie Sava '17** and **Jacqueline B. Swezey '16** won top awards at the 2015 American Mock Trial Association competition at Claremont McKenna College. Sava won the Best Attorney Award and Swezey won the Best Witness Award.



▲ In yet another example of Athenians' successes going nationwide, 24 students from the University's Department of Physical Sciences and Mathematics presented their undergraduate research findings at a major conference in Denver. From March 22-26, the Mount's students networked, learned and shared their own studies as part of the American Chemical Society's National Meeting and Exposition. The Mount team delivered more than a dozen poster presentations during the conference.

WHO WE ARE

We empower our students to reach their highest potential, to better themselves and others. Every day, our students astound us with their intellect, strength and never-say-die spirit. They are, in a word,

UNSTOPPABLE.

Meet some of the students and professors who embody this unstoppable spirit.

By Daniel Gould | Photos by Jeff Lewis and Glenn Marzano

BLANCA DUENAS '16

Mount Saint Mary's named Blanca Duenas '16 its first Unstoppable Scholar during the annual Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon in February. At the event, she spoke to more than 200 people about her family and her college journey.

Three years ago, Duenas was determined to reach the top of the hill. From the bus stop at the corner of Sepulveda Boulevard and Church Lane by the 405 Freeway, Duenas walked 2.9 miles to the Chalon Campus. Most of those miles were uphill. She needed to go to the campus to turn in her signed financial letter, and nothing was going to stop her. She needed to go to college, period.

"It will be intimidating, but we have faith in you," her father told her before she started her life as a college student. Her parents have always pushed her to work harder, reach farther, and dream bigger. Duenas is the first in her family to attend college.

"My mother and father both work tirelessly to provide for me and my sister," she says. "I see the power they create as a team. If there is one thing I have learned in 20 years, it is that you can't go through life by yourself."

Today, Duenas serves as the vice president of the Chalon Campus' Associated Student Body and was just elected president for 2015-2016.

Her first step after college will take her to a career in social work with the elder population. But she is determined to climb an even bigger hill, serving an even bigger segment of society: Someday she will be the nation's Secretary of Health and Human Services.

"I feel unstoppable," she says. "I'm not fearful to fail, to take a risk, to believe in myself, and to question what hasn't been questioned."

ANDREA GRGIC '18

When Andrea Grgic '18 looks back on her first year at Mount Saint Mary's, she always comes back to the same realization: the growth she's seen in herself. In even just a short time at the Mount, Grgic feels that she's "changed tremendously."

"I'm more responsible,"she says. "I think about my life more seriously, and how I can live out the dreams I've had for myself."

Another sign of her changing attitude? Becoming more outspoken in the classroom. Each day, Grgic is more excited to add her voice to the conversation. When it comes to explaining the spark for her passion, it's easy to point out a key source: the commitment to women's empowerment that defines the University's vision.

"I never liked public speaking that much, so I'm surprised by how easy I find it to talk in classes here," she says. "I think the reason why I feel so comfortable sharing ideas is because of what this university teaches its women — that we matter."

Given what she's already gained at Mount Saint Mary's, it only makes sense that Grgic refuses to set any limits on her future. If she knows anything, it's that bigger leaps are still to come.

"With just one semester completed, I feel as if I could be anything and anyone that I want to be."

MAYRA HERNANDEZ '16

Inspired by her faith, Mayra Hernandez '16 is determined to take on a role that serves others — especially the disadvantaged. Take her work at Mount Saint Mary's as social justice coordinator for campus ministry. There, she helps other students give back through volunteer opportunities with groups across Los Angeles.

"I want to give those in need the care and respect they deserve," she says.

But Hernandez's vision for her career goes even further. Ever since childhood, she felt a calling to care for new mothers and infants. At first she assumed it would be as a doctor, until she found a path that spoke to her nurturing spirit – becoming a midwife.

Worried she might have to give up one aspiration for another, Hernandez instead found a way to weave them together. After serious thought, she's committed to work as a missionary and midwife in the developing world, where her skills will be needed the most. Many women in poor countries struggle to access basic care, making childbirth more risky for mothers and infants alike.

And while the road she's chosen is tough, Hernandez knows it's the right one. Last year she interned at a nearby hospital, where she shadowed nurses in the labor and delivery ward. When she finally saw her first delivery — the birth of a baby boy — everything fell into place.

"It gave me the push and reassurance I needed," she says about the experience. "I have a long way to go, but it will all be worth it in the end."

DALIA MALDONADO '16

If something big is happening on campus, there's a good chance you'll find Dalia Maldonado '16 at the center of it. During the school year Maldonado is a blur. As an orientation leader she helps first-year students adjust to college life, while at the same time juggling her duties as a Leadership Scholar and resident assistant. She's also a member of the Chalon Campus Associated Student Body (ASB), where she works on creative ways to strengthen and enrich the school's community.

Despite being so connected to campus, Maldonado wasn't always this engaged in the past. Her outlook shifted when she arrived at Mount Saint Mary's and learned about the school's philosophy of "servant leaders," people who direct their work to meet the needs of others. The concept clearly struck a chord.

"I wasn't involved much in high school," she says, "but here they light a fire under you. The passion and drive to move forward for others is so strong."

Now, Maldonado feels empowered to step up and take the lead in order to solve issues that affect her and her fellow Athenians.

"If you don't like something, don't complain — do something about it," she says. "That's part of why I got involved in ASB — it's a way to make things better for everybody."

For Maldonado, it all comes down to a simple realization — there's no longer any excuse for her to sit on the sidelines. "There's no 'I can't,' only 'I will.' And you just do it."

GISELLE SIPAQUE '17

Dynamic and driven, Giselle Sipaque '17 is a person to keep your eye on. An emerging leader with both focused ambition and an intention to serve others, she's been making a name for herself ever since she arrived at Mount Saint Mary's.

Her upward momentum began as a freshman, when she joined the student senate at the Mount's Doheny Campus. Later that year, when she learned about an upcoming election for student body vice president, the decision to run came easily.

"I went for it because I saw it as an opportunity," Sipaque says. "It was the best thing I could have done."

In part, that's because her stint as VP has been a vital lesson in becoming a skillful and trusted leader. Sipaque says her top goal as vice president is to help fellow students "achieve whatever they need" — a commitment that's required her to pay close attention to the community's concerns and make herself available to others.

"Through my position, I've been able to talk to many students about their issues," she says. "Whatever they need, they can come to us and we can work things out."

Wherever she goes from here, Sipaque seems to already have a sharp view of her journey, acknowledging how her early moves at the Mount are laying the groundwork for later milestones down the road.

"It's opened so many doors for me," she says about the role she's assumed on campus. "It's something I never expected."

BEN LEVINSON '15 MBA

Ben Levinson '15 MBA has a knack for dreaming up big ideas. Now, he's gained something even more powerful — the tools to bring them to life.

Just over a year ago he launched his own nonprofit, Lift You Up, which aims to help those with special needs stay active through fitness. In recent months he's collaborated with a classmate to become a business consultant, advising clients such as a construction firm and a mobile device maker.

Whatever the venture, Levinson says his decision-making has been transformed by the viewpoint he's forged at the Mount.

"The whole way that I approach challenges has changed now that I've gone through the program," he says.

A vital lesson? Getting the big picture. The Mount's MBA classes push students to examine all the factors that can make or break a business. The analysis goes beyond market trends to look at issues like legislation and political campaigns, and the impacts they have on an industry.

"It goes back to seeing how everything fits together," Levinson says. "I'm thinking on a broader scale."

With a wealth of ideas to put into action, he's not trying to mimic past breakthroughs. Instead, he's formed a better strategy for entrepreneurship: find what others have missed, and become a leader in your own right.

"What makes me unstoppable is the drive to get to the next level," he says. "I'm always thinking, 'what can we do to set ourselves apart? How do we get to that new idea that others aren't even aware of?'"

DR. ALAN LEE

In the world of physical therapy, Dr. Alan Lee is more than an expert — he's a genuine pioneer.

Lee is known in the field for his groundbreaking use of telehealth, a form of medical care where providers look after patients via phone calls, email and video. In his research, Lee uses the method to reach individuals who need advice and treatment but can't meet in person, like those in remote rural areas.

Lee believes the technique can expand access and create better outcomes for everyone. "To make a true impact, you need to understand and apply the right innovation at the right time," he says.

Not surprisingly, his knack for new approaches extends to the classroom. As part of a simulated patient encounter, his students at Mount Saint Mary's have to master a telehealth consultation. Lee's work is innovative and he even advises students in the Mount's nursing program, along with those studying physical therapy.

While the approach offers valuable skills in its own right — like turning future caregivers into better communicators — Lee says there's a larger philosophy at work. The idea is to get students ready for the ever-changing health care landscape, and make them comfortable with tackling new techniques

"Students need to question the status quo," he says. "The risk is to remember not to think you have all of the answers."

For Lee and his colleagues, it's a value that forms an essential part of their mission: creating professionals ready for the challenges of 21st century care.

"The faculty is committed to this," Lee says. "It's what we do at the Mount."

DR. LUIZA NOGAJ

Dr. Luiza Nogaj is clear about her priorities: the success of her students comes first. An associate professor of biological sciences, Nogaj devotes her energy to crafting valuable research opportunities that get students working in the lab as soon as possible. There, they gain essential experience that becomes a major asset down the road.

"If they can go to a job or grad school interview and explain their projects, that's huge," Nogaj explains.

Nogaj excels at getting students involved in her own innovative research, which focuses on understanding and preventing cellular cycles that lead to severe diseases such as Alzheimer's and cancer. Students in her lab learn critical skills like how to grow mammalian cell tissues, an important technique that's rarely taught in undergrad settings.

"They're doing the work of graduate students, and that really gives them an edge," she points out. "We're always looking at what we can do to make sure they get jobs."

Whether she's seeking vital grant funding or organizing science mentoring programs for low-income students, Nogaj works constantly to ensure that her students have the resources they need. The outcomes go beyond building a stellar resume. Nogaj views research as a "huge confidence booster" that gets students excited and engaged, an attitude that leads to big achievements in the future.

"The more time they have in the lab, the more productive they are, and the more invested they become in the work itself," she says. "It makes an enormous difference."

Students at Los Angeles International Airport, waiting for their flight to Italy in March.
Photo by Nicole Negrete '15

Whether it's one week or one semester, traveling is a life-changing experience for Mount Saint Mary's students

Journeys that matter

Not a typical spring break

Build a community garden and a greenhouse in Bolivia. Set out on a spiritual pilgrimage to Rome. Immerse yourself in the culture of China.

Those aren't the most commonly found items on most college students' spring break to-do lists. But, then again, Mount Saint Mary's doesn't educate your average college student.

These photos show our undergrads doing amazing things around the world and in their own neighborhood. A decidedly alternative take on Spring Break.

ITALY

Thanks to the University's Campus Ministry team — and the generosity of partner and alumnae donors — 17 Athenians undertook a spiritual pilgrimage over spring break. A journey that took them all the way to Rome, a papal audience in St. Peter's Square, and a guided tour of the Vatican's ancient wonders.

Gail Gresser, director of Campus Ministry and Fr. Felix Just, SJ, served as co-leaders on the trip, along with a host of Campus Ministers. "Most simply, we wanted our students to get to know and love their global Catholic family," Gresser says, "to encounter our ancient heritage, to meet some of our extraordinary ancestors, to enjoy artistic expressions of faith, to reflect upon our darkest side, and to encounter contemporaries who are bringing the gospel to life around the world in our own time."

'Beauty and history'

"This is from our first visit to St. Peter's Basilica, which we could see from our hotel window. This is *the* church in Rome, and it was where we had the opportunity to see Pope Francis during his audience here in the square. This was my first trip abroad, and it was more than I could ever expect. I've grown so much spiritually, seeing these stories and places in person. There's just so much beauty there and so much history."

— Alanna Madrid '15, business administration

Photo: Alanna Madrid

CHINA

Heading west to get East, 10 students traveled across the Pacific Ocean to China over spring break, visiting Beijing, Ganzhou and Shanghai. Walking the Great Wall of China. Exploring historic Yang Mountain. And connecting with Chinese undergraduates on campus at Gannan University, the Mount's partner school in Ganzhou.

"American and Chinese students spent virtually every waking hour with each other, developing personal relationships while learning about university life and education in China," says Katherine Whitman, associate professor of business administration, who led the trip as part of a Travel Study class with Mark Alhanati, chair of business administration. "Our students even lived in campus housing and truly became part of the university community for the week."

The trip was coordinated with Zhang Jing, a professor at Gannan who served as a visiting scholar at the Chalon Campus in 2014.

'Walking history'

"The Great Wall was my favorite site that we visited. I felt so peaceful at that moment, I think mostly due to the fact that I was walking on a part of history. Along with my classmates, I climbed this great fortress and I never felt so awed and tired at the same time."

— Ebenezer Alvarado '15, business administration

Photo: Katherine Whitman '63

BOLIVIA

Ten Athenians also journeyed to Cochabamba, Bolivia. There, the team helped create a community garden and greenhouse at a center for at-risk youth, working alongside a local nonprofit called Alerta Verde and the Foundation for Sustainable Development. The project was borne out of an interdisciplinary course taught by Professors Lia Roberts (Global Politics), Adriane Jones (Biology) and Peter Tan (Philosophy). Before traveling, students learned about the politics of Bolivia, and issues relating to environmental ethics and environmental science. "The students' challenge now," Dr. Roberts says, "is to bring the project back to L.A. and implement here what they learned in Bolivia."

'Planting seeds, making connections'

"We were able to work directly with people in the community, and talk about the importance of nutrition and sustainable methods in gardening. I had never been to South America, and having the opportunity to participate as a volunteer made this trip unique. I want to take this experience with me as I go to graduate school and contribute to global public health policy."

— Sandra Juson '14, healthcare policy, biology

Photo: Adriane Jones, PhD

'View like no other'

"This is of Lake Titicaca, from a restaurant we ate at on Isla de Sol. At a 12,000-foot elevation, it was a tough hike to the restaurant from our hostel on the island. But when I saw this I knew it was worth it. I am so thankful I had the opportunity to see this ... it's like nothing I've ever seen before."

— Jenn Aldous '16, biology

Photo: Jenn Aldous '16

ONLINE

Visit Mount Magazine online for many more photos and reflections: msmu.edu/magazine.

PHOTO BY GLENN MARZANO

A semester away

Business administration major is the first Mount Saint Mary's student to study in China for five months, and she's determined she won't be the last

By Joanna Banks

Katherine Hampton '15

experienced her first immersive global trek during a Mount Saint Mary's-sponsored tour of Southeast Asia two years ago. She was more than ready for the trip through Cambodia, Vietnam and Thailand with classmates and Assistant Professor of Sociology Michelle Lagrimas. It was a beautiful, 13-day trip of ancient cultures, she recalls. When she returned to Los Angeles, Hampton craved more.

"I wanted to go anywhere," says Hampton, a senior business administration major with an emphasis in international business. "I love to travel, and any opportunity that comes up, I want to try it," she says. Hampton says her faculty adviser, Katherine Whitman, associate professor of economics and international business, inspired her to choose China for her next trip because of its important role in commerce. Last fall, Hampton became the first undergraduate Mount Saint Mary's student to spend a semester studying abroad in China. She spent five months living in the country while she studied at Nanjing University.

Hampton's curiosity about the world embodies one of the University's new pillars of distinction in its Strategic Plan: global awareness and understanding. This semester, Hampton encouraged other University students to study in other countries during an information session hosted by Jaime Wood, the University's director of advisement and study away. Wood traveled with Hampton to Nanjing last August for the first few days of her stay in China to make sure her transition went well.

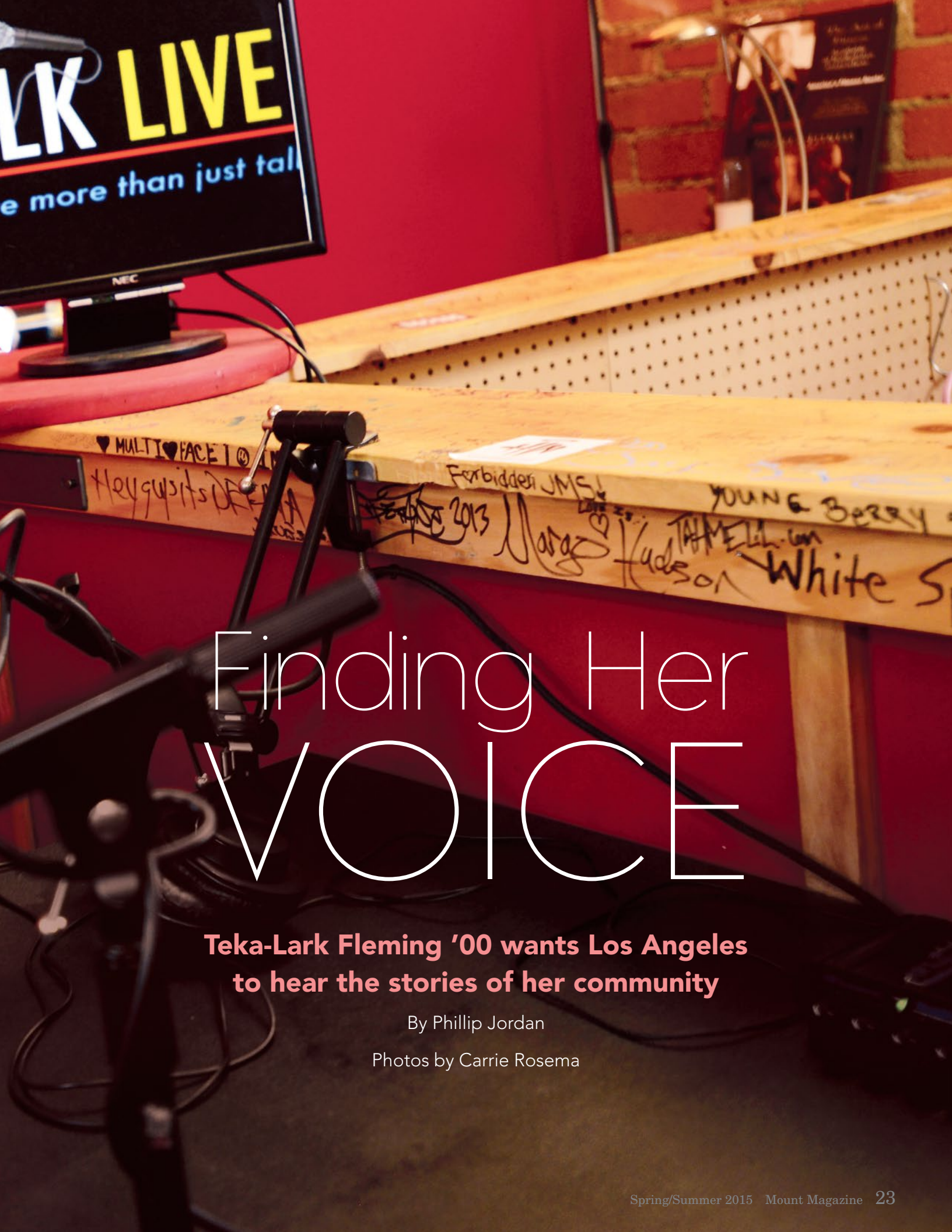
Hampton says every experience in China was valuable, from her coursework to mingling with locals in surrounding cities to connecting with a Mount Saint Mary's MBA cohort led by Whitman that was in the country to meet business leaders.

Along with meeting kind strangers who helped her navigate the Chinese landscape, Hampton says the other big bonus of her trip was being hired as an intern for the U.S. Department of Commerce. She did a phone interview for the internship while she was in China.

Hampton says she plans to focus on finding a job, possibly in international commerce, when her internship ends later this spring. She says she hopes other Mount Saint Mary's students consider a semester away to expand their minds and open up new possibilities.

"After being (in China), I know it's the best decision I've ever made," she says. "People can talk about what they think the culture would be like, but to really experience it is a totally different thing."

ONLINE
Forging friendships in a foreign land: Experiences of exchange students at Mount Saint Mary's
msmu.edu/magazine.



Finding Her VOICE

Teka-Lark Fleming '00 wants Los Angeles to hear the stories of her community

By Phillip Jordan

Photos by Carrie Rosema

"The Mount instilled in me a sense of service, and it strengthened my desire to engage with my community."

Teka-Lark Fleming '00

started her first newspaper at the age of 11. "I don't want to call it a gossip column, but it was a list of everyone I knew and what they were doing," she says, laughing. "OK, so yes, it was basically a gossip column."

Fleming grew up in Inglewood, Calif., devouring the endless supply of news publications her father read. Her curiosity sharpened at Mount Saint Mary's. By the time she graduated, she had both a craft and a purpose.

"I never felt like I was represented in the media stories I read about 'black Los Angeles,'" she says. "Whether it's in newspapers, on television or in movies, you want to see stories you can relate to. It's a reassurance that you're real, that you exist, that you have value. I thought that was missing for me and my community."

Thanks in part to Fleming, those stories are no longer missing quite as conspicuously in Los Angeles. As a prolific journalist, essayist, poet and independent producer, she has driven new conversations forward thanks to a variety of vehicles.

NEWSPAPERS AND MAGAZINES? CHECK. In a move that would have thrilled her 11-year-old self, Fleming founded her own community newspaper, the *Morningside Park Chronicle*, and a broadsheet periodical, *Brickbat Revue*, to showcase avant-garde L.A. authors.

During a long stint as the "Tracks" columnist at *LA City Beat*, Fleming found her voice as an advocate-journalist. Her beat covered the tangled intersection of race, transportation and urban planning. That often meant sparring with metro L.A.'s transit authorities over issues of transparency, and bringing greater attention to public transit issues in the city's communities most reliant on buses and trains. Today, Fleming is a regular contributor for *LA Weekly*, and has appeared in *Time*, *Ebony* and more.

RADIO? CHECK TWO. Fleming's voice now goes out over the airwaves, too. She is a host and producer on KPFK's "Feminist Magazine" weekly show (Tuesdays at 3 p.m.), which educates through the prism of a very entertaining gender lens.

WEB? CHECK THREE. Perhaps the vehicle closest to Fleming's heart right now is her "Blk Grrrl Show" (Saturdays at 3 p.m.; blkgrrrlshow.com), of which she is the creator, producer and host.

"The default is always somehow that 'white and male' signals universal, but that 'black or woman' somehow makes it niche," Fleming says. "I'm trying to create an inclusive show that can be universal, even with an unconventional host."

The program features arts and culture, spotlighting artists, musicians, writers, filmmakers and creative types of all stripes. The show has given birth to other cultural events, including the inaugural Blk Grrrl Book Fair this past March. The fair attracted a cross-cultural crowd of more than 500 to CIELO Galleries in South-Central Los Angeles.

"More than anything, I just wanted something fun and creative in South-Central," Fleming says. "I wanted it to look like the L.A. I know, and to prove that an event like this is possible."

That type of inclusive, civic uplifting, she says, is something that was hammered home for her at the Mount, where she majored in philosophy and started a poetry club.

"The people I went to school with made me want to be the best possible person I could be," Fleming says. "The Mount instilled in me a sense of service, and it strengthened my desire to engage with my community."

After graduating, in fact, some of her first jobs included teaching visually impaired children with autism at Hollywood's Francis Blend School for the Visually Handicapped, and teaching English to patients at L.A.'s Metropolitan State Hospital.

Most importantly, Fleming says her time at Mount Saint Mary's taught her a lesson she tries to remember with each new enterprise she begins: "Just be decent to people," Fleming says. "It's a really simple concept, but such an important one. The Mount really made me think about how I act and how I wanted to live my life."

So, what's next for someone with an insatiable appetite for new challenges? Growing the Blk Grrrl Show and book fair is a top priority. Fleming is also challenging herself as a writer, hoping to publish both a book of poetry ("The Queen of Inglewood") and a new piece of fiction that merges her Los Angeles upbringing with her mother's black, Catholic roots in Louisiana ("LA").

And, increasingly, she is focused on setting an example for those who will follow her.

"I want young girls, especially young girls of color, to know that it's possible to do whatever they want," Fleming says. "I was fortunate that my parents taught me that when I was young. And the Mount reinforced that.

"But there is such a lack of representation out there, even here in L.A., that some girls have never seen what's truly possible. They don't always have someone they can see and say, 'hey, I can do that, too.' I want to change that."

Photo by Glenn Marzano

Advancing women

▲ AS A MOUNT SAINT MARY'S STUDENT in the late 1950s, math major Dolores Schiffert '60 was the rare woman in her area of study. Her mentor, Sister Rose Gertrude Calloway CSJ '30, a former chair of the math department, encouraged Dolores in many ways, including arranging for Dolores to present her work at both the Mount and Loyola Marymount University, and even asking her to teach trigonometry classes. Dolores, who minored in physics and art, savored every opportunity.

"The Mount gave you free rein to pursue what you wanted to do," Dolores recalls.

A retired schoolteacher who attended the University on scholarship, Dolores has made a legacy gift of $3 million toward a $5 million goal to launch a Center for the Advancement of Women at Mount Saint Mary's. The Center will be a unique addition to the Los Angeles community, with a focus on gender research, leadership training and advocacy. It is a satisfying legacy for Dolores; she came from humble means, raised by her toolmaker father and her mother, who was a homemaker. Later her mother took classes in electronics at a junior college, and went on to become one of the few women to work in that field at Hughes Aircraft.

With her family's support and the aspirations instilled through her education at Mount Saint Mary's, Dolores' goals became reality. "Ever since then, if I had dreams, I followed them," she says.

Dollar-for-dollar match for student scholarships

THE ANN PEPPERS FOUNDATION has issued a challenge to the Mount Saint Mary's community. And we're up for it! Over the next two years, for every dollar donated to any new or existing endowed scholarship, the foundation will match the amount up to $250,000. That means we can raise $500,000 over the next two years for deserving students and our scholarship supporters will double the impact of their gift!

This is a terrific time to create a new scholarship or make a gift to your current scholarship.

Help the Mount meet the challenge! Call 213.477.2764 for more information.

Sisters of St Joseph of Carondelet

Mount Saint Mary's University acknowledges the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet (CSJ) for their continued support of the Report on the Status of Women and Girls in California™. The Report highlights key issues impacting the lives of California's 19 million women and girls. The legacy of the CSJs, the founders of the University, continues to provide the tools needed to improve the lives of women and girls.

CLASS NOTES

1969 **Harriet A Fields** published the article "Women Shaping History 2014: Dr. Harriet Fields - Health Care Activist in Africa" in the March/April 2014 issue of Education Update Online.

1974 **Margaret (Monge) Avila** led a workshop on the "Multicultural Aspects of Aging" at the 2014 Multicultural Nurses Council of Southern California conference in Torrance.

1981 **Robert Feller**, a Mount alum with a master's degree in Spanish and counseling, recently published his fifth book, "The Bipolar Express." His books are available on Amazon.com, and his most notable work is "Sounds of Safety," published in 2013.

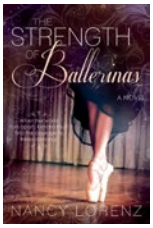
1984 **Marissa (Fuller) Trevett** is a school nurse at Palos Verdes High School and also works per diem as an emergency department nurse at Providence Little Company Of Mary San Pedro. She is the advisor of the Project Runway Fashion Club at Palos Verdes High School.

1989 **Michele (Benson) Starkey, PhD,** is now the assistant provost at Mount Saint Mary's University as of Jan. 1. She has been a part of the Mount's academic team since 1997, and is a professor in physical sciences and mathematics.

1999 **Kelly Bender** graduated with a teaching credential in social science and an MS in education from the Mount. She began working for the Los Angeles Unified School District in 2000. She helped to start the first small learning community at Hollywood High in 2004. She completed her PhD in educational studies with an emphasis on urban leadership in 2014 from Claremont Graduate University.

2000 **Hani J. Youssef** has been named the new assistant superintendent of educational services for Simi Valley Unified School District. He received his MS in education from the Mount.

2005 **Nancy Lorenz Vega** has published the novel "The Strengths of Ballerinas." The book can be found at Amazon.com. ▼



2007 **Natalie (Hernandez) Weingrow** graduated with a double major in applied philosophy and pre-law, with a minor in business. She was the president of Phi Alpha Delta, participated in Mock Trial, Moot Court, and Model United Nations while attending the Mount. She is currently an employment and labor law attorney. She currently serves as lead staff attorney at the non-profit organization Los Angeles County Chicano Employees Association in Pasadena. She is a recent graduate of LACBA's Trial Advocacy Program, and will serve as a pro bono prosecutor publico with the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office this spring. She and her husband are expecting their first child in early July. It's a girl!

Reina G. Martinez served in the Women's Advisory Board for the city of West Hollywood from 2011 to 2013. She has spoken at numerous city events to bring awareness to important issues affecting the community. She is currently an advocacy member of the National Council of Jewish Women Los Angeles and president of Hollywood N.O.W.

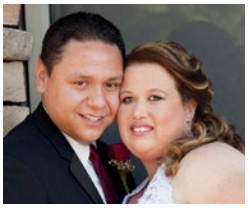
2009 **Jacqueline (Pearce) Passanisi** was nominated for a 2014 Educators' Choice Content Award. She also recently co-wrote an article published by Scientific American that focused on how technology can revitalize hands-on education in the classroom. Passanisi is a teacher and a technology advocate in grade-school instruction. She graduated from the Mount with an MS in education.

2010 **Lina So Myung**, starred in, and produced, her first feature-length film, "Anita Ho." She created the family-friendly romantic comedy along with her writer-director husband, Steve Myung. The movie enjoyed its U.S. premiere at the Laemmle Pasadena Playhouse on Feb. 27. After earning her bachelor's degree at the Mount, Lina went on to receive her MBA from the University in 2012.

Chris Reinbold is now a contributor to the healthy living website Livestrong.com. He graduated from the Mount's Doctorate in Physical Therapy program, and now lives and works in St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands.

MARRIAGES

'05 Rebecca (Levin) Arce to David Arce ▼



'10 Cristal (Contreras) to Frankie Dominguez

Golden Grads celebrate milestone class gift

MEMBERS OF THE CLASS OF 1964 celebrated the 50th anniversary of their graduation during Homecoming festivities last October. As testimony of their dedication to the Mount and the future of its students, the new Golden Grads presented their gift of $19,500 to the University. Since then they have raised $10,500 more, for a total of $30,000, to start the Class of 1964 Endowed Scholarship. An endowed scholarship continues in perpetuity, enabling one or more students to benefit every academic year. The University celebrates the Class of 1964 and their enduring impact on future generations of Mount students.

BIRTHS & ADOPTIONS

The Alumnae Association extends congratulations to the following alums and their spouses on their new additions:

'02 Gabriela Elizabeth Valero to Nancy (Beigel) Valero, 1st child
'06 Owen Marcus Hughes to Abigail (Peak) Hughes, 1st child
'05 Vivienne Rose Larios to Kristen Shadburn, 1st child ▼

'09 George Aristole to Nancy (Valdivia) Antoniou, 2nd child
'06 Miguel Cruz Olivares to Brenda Lopez, 1st child

IN MEMORIAM

Your prayers are requested for the repose of the souls of:

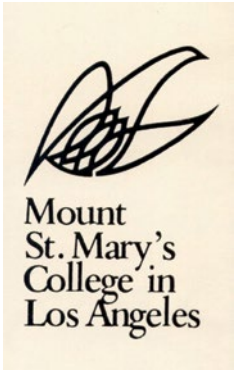
'46 Betty (Ludwig) Trumbull
'49 Virginia Debley
'51 Mary Ann (Cunningham) Reilly
'51 husband of Rita (Ries) Veatch and father of John Veatch '92
'51 Mary Alice (Connors) McCann
'53 Maria (Martinez) Bolster
'52 Deen (Ibbetson) Schrank
'55 husband of Eileen (LaBelle) Rodman
'56 husband of Elana (Haidinger) Donovan
'57 Norma (Hopkins) Wallace
'57 Harriet (Hillebrand) Burns
'57 Emma Jean (Apodaca) Cervantes
'57 Theresa (Taverna) Patterson
'59 Eileen (McCabe) Murray
'62 Susan (Lio) Arcaris
'62 Nancy (Westberg) Brill-Downey
'64 husband of Julie (O'Connor) Goodwin
'75 son of Dorothy Vessa
'78 father of Katina (Zaninovich) Etsell
'86 mother of Sylvie (Duffin) Raoux
'97 mother of Mary (Shank) Gumbrecht
'98 husband of Gina Lapena
'01 mother of Erika Gallo
'01 father of Avygail Sanchez
'04 mother of Jennifer Gonzalez
'11 father of Lauren Pangcog

ADVANCED DEGREES

The Alumnae Association congratulates the following alums for their successful pursuit of academic achievement:

'89 Gabriela Gonzalez-Thomas, Master of Science in leadership & management with concentration in organizational development, University of LaVerne, January 2015
'04 Nancy S. Aguilar, Master of Arts in humanities with a concentration in history, Mount Saint Mary's University. Graduated 2014.
'05 Kristen Shadburn, Master of Business Administration, Mount Saint Mary's University, December 2014.
'10 Kristin Collier, Family Nurse Practitioner program, Georgetown University, October 2014.

The original seal in 1931. The University still uses a version of the same seal today.



The dove first appeared in 1966, left, when Mount Saint Mary's commissioned a new logo to replace the image that had been used for decades, Chalon's Mary Chapel. With two campuses as of 1962, the iconic tower no longer represented the whole community.

The new mark features a bird in flight, reminiscent of the 1966 logo.

Making a Mark

PROMINENT IN MOUNT SAINT MARY'S NEW LOGO is a shield — or is it a book? The top of the book has pages, or are they petals of a lily? The ambiguities are intentional, inviting us in to think and reflect. But embedded in the suggestions of images are some real symbols from the original seal of the school.

The original seal was created by Baker Heraldic of London in 1931. The center of the seal is a quatrefoil of four shields, each enclosing a symbol representing some aspect of the Mount's foundations: the wings of the Our Lady of the Angels Archdiocese; the fleur de lis of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet; the "lily among thorns" of our namesake, the Blessed Virgin Mary; and a book with the Mount motto, *Deus Illuminatio Mea* (God My Light).

At the top of the new logo is a bird, which in animated versions takes flight. Some people will see represented the aspirations of our students, the hopes and dreams of generations of Mount graduates taking flight. Christians will see the Holy Spirit emerging from the sacred texts.

For a look at the different Mount logos through the years, go to mountarchives.blogspot.com.

— *Victoria McCargar, University archivist*

Mount Saint Mary's University
LOS ANGELES

10 Chester Place
Los Angeles, CA 90007

msmu.edu

facebook.com/MountSaintMarysU
twitter.com/@MSMU_LA
instagram.com/MountSaintMarysU

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
LOS ANGELES, CA
PERMIT NO. 22801

Class of 1984 at Homecoming 2014

Homecoming 2015

ARE YOU READY for another day of fun and nostalgia on campus? Mark your calendars for Homecoming on Oct. 10. Aside from honoring the Class of 1965, which will be marking its 50th anniversary, this year's Homecoming will also celebrate Mount Saint's Mary's 90th year since its founding. More information about the festivities will be posted this summer at alums.msmu.edu.

Upcoming

May 11

Commencement ceremonies at the Shrine Auditorium. msmu.edu/commencement

May 30

Da Camera Society's Doheny Soiree in the Doheny Mansion, featuring violinist Cindy Wu and pianist Orion Weiss. dacamerasociety.org

July 10

Doheny Mansion Public Tour, dohenymansion.org

Aug. 24

Fall semester begins for traditional undergraduate students

Sept. 19

Women's Leadership Conference, Chalon Campus, msmu.edu/wlc

Oct. 3

DPT Commencement Ceremony, Doheny Campus